WOMAN'S WORLD.

PLEASANT LITERATURE FOR FEMININE READERS.

THE FADED FLOWERS.

All summer long I watched the flowers
And loved their hues diverse and sweet;
The shining sun, the shaded showers
Wrought beauty's dream complete.
By thought and care their colors fair
Were kept in perfect sheen,
An image blest, my heart confest,
As fair as e'er was seen.

But now the flowers are past away,
The victims of the biting cold;
In glorious pride they had their day,
Now mould returns to mould:
Their winsome grace no more we trace,
'Tis buried in the past.
Their leaves were shed, their fragrance fled
Like echoes on the blast.

So all decays, however bright,
The bloom of youth and life we love,
It gleams within the golden light
Its own fair perfectness to prove,
But in a while we lose its smile,
And only Memory's self can trace
The charmed spell, which blossomed well
With Nature's matchless grace.
—*William Brunton, in Detroit Advertiser.*

MRS. HARRISON'S BUSY DAYS.

Mrs. Harrison is a busy, active woman every minute of the day, says a Washington letter to the Pittsburg *Times*. She sees to every household matter demanding her attention, and is especially fond of visiting the conservatories. When her grandchildren are here they are always with her. Now that they are absent she has leisure to give to her painting, the last new books and magazines, the pile of daily papers and her mail.

This latter burden is not quite as great as during the first few months of her White House residence, but it is a marvellous job yet to get through with each day and not allow any accumulations. She drives out often in the mornings downtown on shopping excursions, and goes in and out the business store without exciting the least attention from anybody. But generally for the shopping expedition she takes the office carriage and has one of the servants to drive her, and consequently is hardly ever recognized.

THE ENGLISH GIRL.

The English girl, observes a traveler in the Boston *Herald*, is romantic and submissive. While as full of sentiment as the ideal love letters tied with blue ribbons, she still regards man as her lord and master. She rarely dreams of disputing the supremacy of her husband, father, or even brother, and her privilege and pleasure are to minister unto them. She is so affectionate in her home circle that the average man has only to be admitted there to straightway fall head over heels in love with a girl who worships her brother, is forever kissing her fond father, and disputes with her sisters the honor and delight of warming the paternal slippers. Even when of "high station" she takes her turn in making the tea and preparing the toast and superintending the breakfast generally—a task which mamma relegates to her daughters. The English girl breathes this engaging air of domesticity. Man doesn't say, "How she can waltz! how well she looks at the opera! how she surpasses all the other girls in the cotillion!" No matter to what advantage she may appear in evening dress under the soft radiance of the wax candles, what the most inveterate bachelor whispers to himself is this: "By George! what a wife she would make! And what a home!"

TWO BEAUTY RECIPES.

Winter winds cause fissures or cracks in the lips that are not only extremely unpleasant to look upon, but are exquisitely painful, and by touching them with your tongue you intensify the pain very much. Go to the drug store and get there an old remedy, so old that it has the charm of novelty. It rejoices in an overpowering Latin name, but when you ask the druggist for it in English, say you want citron cream; apply this with your fingers, or a soft linen cloth, and the cooling and healing result that will follow will convince you that even in medicine sometimes old things are best.

To get off freckles, to cause the sunburn to disappear, you have got to put on your face and neck, and on your arms, darkened by battling with the waves, a mixture of two parts of Jamaica rum to one of lemon juice; dabble it well on the surface, let it dry, and wash it off in the morning in your hot bath. Besides whitening the skin, which the lemon does, the rum gives it a vigor and makes a rosy flush come to the surface. You will gain no good from this by doing it for one or two nights; keep it up for two weeks at the least and remember that when your skin has that depressed worn out look that comes from sitting up too late at night, nothing will invigorate it like a few drops of Jamaica rum put into the water with which you wash your face.—*Atlanta Constitution.*

FASHIONS IN TABLE LINEN.

There are fashions for table linen just as there are fashions in millinery. There are certain articles that are used on the table which are always fashionable. There are some articles which will be popular for a few months and then go out of style altogether. Fine white damask table cloths are always fashionable. They should always be used. They may be handsomely embroidered, fringed or edged with lace, they may fall quite to the floor or just a half a yard over the edge of the table.

Napkins for the table should match the cloth. They should be fine and large and laundered without starch. Fruit napkins are always colored. Finger bowl doilies are just six inches square, including the fringe or hem. They should be made of a nice cloth, linen, lace or the richest silk. Sometimes they are embroidered with sketches.

Old-fashioned turkey red cloths and napkins are now very much used for lunch and tea. Other popular colors are pink, yellow, light blue and drab. Then there are sets of the very finest linen, trimmed with lace, and some are of fine damask with the family's monogram wrought in colored threads, either in one corner or on the middle of the cloth a few inches from the centre fold.

For eggs, rolls, corn and so forth, napkins are generally about half a yard long, some are envelope shaped, while others have one end turned under and the other ornamented to lay over the article. They are made of coarse linen and hemmed. Napkins for trays and carving napkins are made either in white or colored wash silk thread and are fringed or braided with quaint designs.—*Mail and Express.*

A FEW WORDS TO GIRLS.

"In the first place, girls, be very careful about your conduct toward the young men you meet. 'As a jewel of gold in a swine's snout so is a fair woman without discretion.' And no modern proverb vendor or mender has said a truer thing. Be discreet; do not think that young men are the only delightful people in the world, or act as if you thought so. Keep them at a proper distance; no man likes or respects a girl who runs after him, defers to his opinion, or lets him say rude things to her. Again, don't go out driving or walking or sailing alone with any young man. If you have no real chaperon, take another girl with you. Be most particular about the young men with whom you associate. Avoid 'fast' men as you would lepers. Men who are dissipated are inherently low; no matter how rich, how handsome, how highly placed in what is called society. Such men are no associates for a pure young girl.

"Don't be too fine in your clothes; simplicity and exquisite fresh neatness are more attractive in a girl's costume than any extravagance of fashion or costliness of material; but even the plainest dress may be made flaunting by its immodest style. Again, be just as careful with what young women you are friendly with, as with young men. A girl is always judged by her friends; keep civilly aloof from the 'fast,' the slangy, the giggling girls you will too surely meet. Choose your company more carefully than your dress, for your friends are true index of your moral and mental status. Nothing can ever retrieve the mistakes you make now in these respects; you are now 'making history'—the history of your life. God never made, among all the exquisite things of creation, a more lovely, enchanting, admirable creature than a fresh, pure, charming young girl, full of unselfish thought for others, gentle, gracious and spotless."—*Dry Goods Chronicle.*

IN JAPANESE COSTUME.

The Countess Oyana, wife of the Japanese Minister of War, is one of the few ladies of the court circle at Tokio who receive at their own homes in the native costume which European fashions are so fast driving out of the land of the Mikado. The Countess prefers the comfortable and picturesque Japanese dress to the foreign costumes which the court has adopted, and this in spite of the fact that she is one of the first Japanese women educated in America, having graduated at Vassaar in 1852, the only woman of her race who has received the baccalaureate degree. Stematz Yamakawa, as she was known before her marriage, spent about ten years in this country, coming with the Japanese Embassy of 1872, and returning so thoroughly Americanized that she had almost forgotten her own language. She is remembered by her college mates as an extremely attractive girl, pretty—even to American eyes—tall, graceful and well formed. The return to her native country was to her something of an ordeal. She came here a girl of twelve, adopted the Christian religion and the customs and habits of thought of Western civilization and went back a marriageable woman of twenty-two, with the knowledge that her parents would immediately find a husband for her, very possibly one not at all in sympathy with her ideas. Fortunately the ehosen spouse was the Count Iwao Oyana, who was himself educated in France, and as whose wife she has taken immediate rank in social and philanthropic circles in Tokio. A number of Japanese women have since come to this country as students, and several are here now. Miss Shige Nagai entered the Vassar School of Music in 1878, and made a love match with Lieutenant Urin, of the Japanese Navy, who was educated by his Government at our Naval Academy at Annapolis, and first met his piquant countrywoman at a Vassar fete to which a number of Annapolis youth were invited. The wedding was agreed upon before either returned home. One of the festivities attendant on the marriage in Tioko was the amateur presentation of the "Merchant of Venice" before the court and Mikado. Miss Ume Tsuda studied at the Archer Institute in Washington, and is now teaching in Tioko in the Peeresses' School for Japanese Noblewomen.

FASHION NOTES.

All sleeves are loose above elbow.

Waists grow shorter and less peaked.

The basque waist is almost a thing of the past.

Tartans and stripes are in higher favor than ever.

The looped tablier is infrequently seen on new gowns.

Skirts grow longer in the back, but shorter in front.

The newest Paris gowns have the skirt sewn on to the bodice.

Brown, tan, gray, and black gloves are the correct wear with all out-of-door toilets.

Panels remain a fashionable and popular feature on most gowns for street and carriage wear.

All waists have surplices, bretelles, plastrons, waistcoats, or revers of one kind or another.

Ostrich feather tippets in colors to match evening and dinner gowns are seen in the best houses.

Entire dresses of crocheted wool are worn by English children, especially delicate ones, in cold, damp weather.

The Carrick cape, with a flat boa or stole ending in square tabs at the knees or higher, is a fashionable London wrap.

The figures in the new and richest brocaded silks are very large, a single pattern frequently covering an entire breadth.

The suits for little people that seem destined to drive out all others shown this fall are those of plaids, or tartans as our English cousins call them.

The exquisite "finish" which is put upon all dresses and mantles, and which is the distinguishing feature of the times, is an outcome of the tailor gown.

Even street dresses are cut in the four-seam, or princess form, the skirt and waist all in one, even when a seperate bodice is simulated by the bell and surplices.

The general rule for street toilets is to have a plain long redingote of plain stuff, worn over a skirt of striped tartan, brocaded, figured, or bordered material, and this rule is followed for silk suits as well as for woolen.

Vandyked or deep-pointed laces, cream, white, black, and colored, frequently embroidered in beads and tinted metal and colored silks, are almost as fashionable as the Oriental embroideries which are in such high favor.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Don't blame the world because the thorns are found among the roses.

A sound discretion is not so much indicated by never making a mistake as by never repeating it.

It has been observed that the man with the fewest failings is the man most tolerant of those of his neighbors.

Beware of him who meets with a friendly mien, and, in the midst of a cordial salutation, seeks to avoid your glance.

Although it is dangerous to have too much knowledge of certain subjects, it is still more dangerous to be totally ignorant of them.

Conquer thyself. Till thou hast done that, thou art a slave; for it is almost as well for thee to be in subjection to another's appetite as thine own.

Look not mournfully into the past; it comes not back again. Wisely improve the present; it is thine. Go forth to meet the shadowy future without fear and a manly heart.

Nothing hinders the constant agreement of people who live together but vanity and selfishness. Let the spirit of humanity and benevolence prevail, and discord and disagreement would be banished from the household.

Life never seems so clear and easy as when the heart is beating faster at the sight of some generous, self-risking deed. We feel no doubt then what is the highest prize the soul can win, and almost believe in our power to attain it.

The Origin of "Hurrah."

Writing to the London *Times*, with reference to the remark of its Berlin correspondent that the exclammation "Hurrah!" "is said to be of Slavonic origin," Dr. C. A. Buchheim, of King's College, London, says: "I presume your correspondent must have some authority for this assertion; but I hope you will allow me to point out that, as far as I know, the record is of purely German origin. It is generally assumed to be derived from the imitative interjection hurr, describing a rapid movement, from which word the middle High-German hurren, 'to move rapidly,' or rather to hurry, has been formed. Hurrah is, therefore, nothing else but an enlarged form of hurr, and, as I said, of purely Teutonic origin. In Grimm's 'Worterbuch' we find the interjection quoted from a Minnesinger. It also occurs in Danish and Swedish; and it would be interesting to know when it was first introduced in this country in the Anglecised form of 'hurry.' In Germany it was frequently used during the Napoleonic wars by the Prussian soldiers, and it also occurs in some political and martial songs of those days. Since then it seems to have been adopted also by other nations, even by the French in the form of hourra. That the interjection did not become so popular in Germany as a cheer at convivial gatherings as in this country is probably owing to the circumstance that preference was given there to the brief exclamation 'Hoch!' forming respectively the end and the beginning of the phrases 'Er lebe hoch' and 'Hoch soll er leben.' Of late the word hurrah seems to have become rather popular in Germany. It is just possible that the English reimported it three or that it was revived through the magnificent poem of 'Hurrah, Germania!' written by the poet laurate of German people, Ferdinand Freiligrath."

Tea Tasting Extraordinary.

The managing director of a big tea dealing firm, who is a tea taster and blender of twenty-five years' experience, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, has lately stated that he once saw a leading broker have sixty teas, ranging within a penny per pound in value, weighed up in duplicate, the 120 pots numbered and mixed up, he then picking out the sixty duplicates without a single mistake. As regards educating the sense of smell, writes the tea dealer, "I am strongly of opinion that it is possible, with constant practice, to value teas as correctly by smelling the infused leaf as by fasting. I have bought thousands of chests in public sale by smelling the infused leaf only, and have constantly valued public sale teas on the same plan. Nevertheless, for blending purposes, it is absolutely necessary to taste. I had fourteen years' experience in tasting on the market, and left it eleven years ago to enter the blended tea trade. I then had to begin to learn what I never knew before—the art of blending tea—and I am convinced that, for this growing department of the trade, it is not only necessary that a man should have a good palate and a keen sense of smell; but that he should, by constant attention, understand the art of selecting such teas as will blend with each other. A man may have ever so keen a palate and sense of smell, and be able to value tea to a farthing per pound, and yet be no blender. Having produced a blend successfully, the abilities of a blender are severely tried by his having to maintain its quality and character, and nothing but constant practice, indomitable perseverance and skill will enable him to succeed."

Proving His Sanity.

A gentleman from an adjoining town, who passed through Milledgeville, Ga., the other day, says the *Chronicle* of that place, told our correspondent of a little scene in the Ordinary's Court of his native county a few days ago that demonstrates the truth of the assertion that "great matters are often kindled from small fires." The case in question was against a young colored man charged with lunacy, and twelve prominent gentlemen were sworn to investigate into his mental condition and give a verdict in accordance with the facts deduced.

The foreman of the jury, though a prominent gentleman, had failed to gain enviable reputation as a paymaster, and there is where the pinch came. In the cross-examination, usually attendant on such trials, the foreman propounded a few questions to the simple-minded colored man that were readily answered.

"Do you know me?" asked the peer.

"Certainly I do," was the quick retort.

"Then, what is my name and where did you know me?"

The lad gazed at him with the air of confidence and then replied: "Your name is Mr. John Blank. I worked for you all of year before last, and I swar' 'fore God you has nebber paid me a cent for it. Of course, I knows you." In the laughter and confusion that followed, a verdict of "not crazy" was made, but Mr. Blank vows that he will never serve on another jury, especially to test the mental strength of a colored man, which he likens unto gauging the kicking capacity of a mule.

A company has been organized in St. Louis to manufacture granite shingles.

Fortunes in Glass Jars.

A number of gentlemen were admiring the display of beautiful and costly chemicals made during the session of the National Wholesale Druggists' Association. "Why does that cost so much?" inquired one of the gazers of Chemist Hurty, who stood near, pointing as he spoke to a six-pound jar which bore the label "Hom-Atropine Hydrobromate, cryst.," valued at $12,000 for the quantity displayed, or $2100 per pound.

"I have paid for a few grains of that," said the chemist, "at the rate of sixty cents a grain, or $4200 a pound. Why does it cost so much? In the first place the basis of the cost is in the labor and skill required to produce it. Beginning with the plant from which this is obtained, belladonna leaves, the labor of extracting and presenting this form of the active principle, atropine, is almost interminable. Perhaps from the beginning of the process until the product is in hand one year's time has elapsed. It has gone through a series of processes that even to attempt to follow in the mind would drive one to distraction. After the product has been obtained it must be taken into account that there is but a very limited demand for it. That chemical is used in eye practice for dilating the pupil, and in that one bottle there is enough for all the earth and for the inhabitants of any of the other planets whose eyes require treatment. It is the limited use of many of the chemicals here displayed quite as much as the difficulty of production that puts them upon price currents at such high figures. When the demand gets to be great the price rapidly declines.

"Take, for instance, cocaine (pronounced ko-ka-een), which a few years ago sold at nearly $500 an ounce and now sells at $5 an ounce. To pharmacists belong most of the credit of having brought it into use. It was the pharmacists who made it and who employed men in the hospitals to make clinical observations upon it. The result of these investigations were distributed among pharmacists and druggists all over the land, and these in turn did more than all other agencies combined to bring physicians to notice and employ the new remedy. In fact, these dealers fairly put chains upon the necks of the physicians and dragged them up to the remedy."—*Indianapolis Journal.*

Wages in China.

The State Department at Washington has received a report from Consul Pettus, stationed at Ningpo, giving statistics in regard to labor and wages in China. He says: "Wages have not increased here for years, and strikes never occur. Trouble is rarely experienced, as laborers are confined to districts where they are employed. No laborer is allowed to be employed outside of his district; he may, by general consent, join laborers of another district—not otherwise.

"House servants are better paid than any other class of laborers. They are intelligent and have to be honest and faithful, otherwise they will fail to procure letters for good service, without which they will be thrown out of employment."

He appends a table of wages of laborers and artisans in his own district. Barbers make $4 a month and blacksmiths $5. Block cutters, boat builders and boatmen get 30 cents a day, and bricklayers 20 cents. Makers of bricks are paid $4 a month, and cabinet makers, carpenters and carvers, 22 to 30 cents a day. Coffin makers are paid 25 cents a day for their gruesome toil, and chair bearers get 30 cents a day for carrying their superiors. Coolies, the common laborers, receive but 20 cents a day, and female cotton spinners even less, 10 cents. Clerks get $5 a month with board, and cooks get the same. Dyers are aristocrats among the laborers, receiving $8 a month, and embroiderers get 30 cents a day. A farmer is paid from $3 to $4 a month, with his board. Fishermen are paid from $15 to $20 for a season, which lasts about two months. Fan makers are paid 30 cents a day and gold and silver workers from 25 cents to 40 cents. Harvesters get 20 cents a day, painters 21, plumbers 24, potters the same, rice cleaners and reapers 25, salt makers 20, silk spinners 30, and female silk winders 14 cents. Sailors receive from $4 to $8 a month, with board, and soldiers $5 a month, with uniforms. Straw hat makers get 12 cents a day, tea pickers 10 cents, tea sorters 10 cents, tea firers 30 cents, tailors 14 cents, with board, and umbrella makers 20 cents. Salesmen get $4 a month and tea packers $8. These rates are all paid by Chinese masters.

The Polar Bear and Her Young.

The female Polar bear is taught by a wonderful instinct to shelter her young under the snow. In December she retreats to the side of a rock, where, by dint of scraping and letting the snow fall upon her, she forms a cell in which to live during the winter. There is no fear that she should be stiffed for want of air, for the warmth of her breath always keeps a small passage open. Within this strange nursery she produces her young, and remains with them beneath the snow till March, when she comes out into the open air with her baby bears. As the only use of the snow burrow is to shelter the young, the male bears do not hibernate like the females, but roam freely about during the winter months.

Before retiring under the snow the bear eats enormously, so that she becomes very fat, thus laying in an internal store of food which enables her not only to support her own life, but to nourish her young during her long seclusion. By an admirable provision of nature the young Polar bears are extremely small at birth, and grow slowly so long as they are in their crystal nursery, thus needing little food and space. When they emerge from their shelter the mother bear is extremely thin and very fierce.

An Eiffel Tower of Diamonds.

A tower Eiffel entirely of diamonds! This sounds like a dream. The reality, however, is not quite so dazzling as might be expected, and the model, which is an exact reproduction of the original monument, gains nothing in grace and beauty of outline to make up for the loss of grandeur and size. As it is, however, it is a very curious piece of work. The number of diamonds needed to construct this model, which measures thirty-nine inches in height, is 40,000, and they are set in rows on the silver girders. The only bits of color about it are in the lower platforms, both in silver gilt in two shades of gold, the enameled flags at the four corners, and the ruby and sapphire set in the lantern, which is lighted by electricity and revolves by clock work. The price put upon it is $600,000.—*London Queen.*

Origin of the Diamond.

Some theories about the origin of the diamond are very ingenious and interesting, though the amount of truth they embody remains to be proved. It has been suggested that the vapors of carbon during the coal period may have been condensed and crystalized into the diamond; and again, the itacolumite, generally regarded as the matrix, was saturated with petroleum, which, collecting in nodules, formed the gem by gradual crystalization. Newton believed it to have been a coagulated, unctuous substance, of vegetable origin, and was sustained in the theory by many eminent philosophers, including Sir David Brewster, who believed the diamond was once a mass of gum, derived from certain species of wood, and that it subsequently assumed a crystaline form.

Dana and others advance the opinion that it may have been produced by the slow decomposition of vegetable material and even from animal matter. Burton says it is younger than gold and suggests the possibility that it may still be in process of formation, with capacity of growth. Specimens of the diamond have been found to inclose particles of gold—an evidence, he thinks, that its formation was more recent than that of the precious metal. The theory that the diamond was formed immediately from carbon by the action of heat is opposed by another, maintaining that it could not have been produced in this way, otherwise it would have been consumed. But the advocates of this view were not quite on their guard against a surprise, for some quick-witted opponent has found by experiments that the diamond will sustain great heat without combustion.—*American Analyst.*

Dryness Injures Pianos.

"Very few know how to take care of a piano," said a musical man to a reporter for the New York *Mail and Express*, who had visited his warerooms.

"How do you do it here?" asked the scribe.

"It is a popular notion that pianos ought to be kept very dry. Nothing could be more fallacious. Pianos are not nearly so much affected by heat or cold as they are by dryness, and, reversely, by dampness. It is not generally known that the sounding board, the life of the piano, is forced into the case when it is made so tightly that it bulges up in the center, on the same principle as a violin. The wood is supposed to be as dry as possible, but, of course, it contains some moisture, and gathers more on damp days and in handling. Now, when a piano is put into an overheated, dry room, all this moisture is dried out, and the board loses its shape and gets flabby and cracks. Even if it doesn't crack, the tone loses its resonance and grows thin and tinny, the felt cloth and leather used in the action dry up, and the whole machine rattles."

"How will you prevent this?"

"Keep a growing plant in your room and so long as your plant thrives your piano ought to, or else there is something wrong with it. It should be noted how much more water will have to be poured into the flower pot in the room where the piano is than in any other room. In Germany it is the practice to keep a large vase or urn with a sopping wet sponge in it near or under the piano and keep it moistened. This is kept up all the time the fires are on."

Somebody has taken the trouble to compute that the average consumption of salt by each grown person in this country is nearly fifty pounds a year.

King Alphonso, the baby potentate of Spain, has offered a prize to the citizen of Madrid who will invent the most novel toy.

EMPEROR WILLIAM is called by his subjects "King Go," a sobriquet won by the way he rushes about from place to place.

BISMARCK'S secretary prepares an epitome of the day's news on pads which he reads to his autocratic employer at night.

FROM twenty-six pounds of beans a Nebraska farmer harvested and threshed thirty bushels or 1800 pounds.